

**To:** Cheatham, Reggie[cheatham.reggie@epa.gov]; Woodyard, Josh[Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov]; Lee, Eugene[Lee.Eugene@epa.gov]; Schlieger, Brian[schlieger.brian@epa.gov]; Tulis, Dana[Tulis.Dana@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Ostrander, David[Ostrander.David@epa.gov]  
**From:** Irizarry, Gilberto  
**Sent:** Thur 9/24/2015 5:22:21 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Winter Discharge Treatment

I have no idea ... as far as I know, we do not have a good draft Action Memo to review in HQ, yet ...

Adding Brian S. here in case he knows something else ... Also adding Dana T. here for her awareness ...

Thanks,

Gilberto "Tito" Irizarry, Director

Preparedness & Response Operations Division (PROD)

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

O: 202-564-7982

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**From:** Cheatham, Reggie  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2015 1:19 PM  
**To:** Irizarry, Gilberto; Woodyard, Josh; Lee, Eugene  
**Cc:** Ostrander, David  
**Subject:** FW: Winter Discharge Treatment

What is Joan referring too below...I am not in receipt of an Action Plan

**From:** Card, Joan  
**Sent:** Friday, September 18, 2015 2:36 PM  
**To:** Fritz, Matthew  
**Cc:** Purchia, Liz; McGrath, Shaun; Reynolds, Thomas; Harrison, Melissa; Stanislaus, Mathy; Natarajan, Nitin; Cheatham, Reggie; Ostrander, David; Grantham, Nancy; Smith, Paula; Jenkins, Laura Flynn  
**Subject:** RE: Winter Discharge Treatment

Hi all. It appears we are ready to advise Environmental Restoration to proceed with the subcontracting of the Winter Treatment work as soon as OSWER/OEM are agreeable. This is connected to the Action Memo and I understand Reggie is reviewing it now. Once the Action Memo is final, Reggie can advise David to pull the trigger.

It's important to be clear that we are not contracting the treatment here, so the announcement should not say that "EPA has awarded a contract to...". We advise ER to proceed with their subcontract selection (and we are informed of and agree with the selection based on the files they have shared with us).

Reggie? David? Anything to add?

Joan

**From:** Fritz, Matthew  
**Sent:** Friday, September 18, 2015 8:49 AM  
**To:** Card, Joan  
**Cc:** Purchia, Liz; McGrath, Shaun; Reynolds, Thomas; Harrison, Melissa; Stanislaus, Mathy; Natarajan, Nitin; Cheatham, Reggie; Ostrander, David; Grantham, Nancy; Smith, Paula; Jenkins, Laura Flynn  
**Subject:** Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

I believe taking some time to work through this today and being ready to go Monday makes sense - as long as the actual work is not hindered.

On Sep 18, 2015, at 10:46 AM, Card, Joan <[Card.Joan@epa.gov](mailto:Card.Joan@epa.gov)> wrote:

I'll work with David on whether that is possible today. Joan

**From:** Purchia, Liz

**Sent:** Friday, September 18, 2015 8:45 AM

**To:** McGrath, Shaun

**Cc:** Reynolds, Thomas; Harrison, Melissa; Fritz, Matthew; Stanislaus, Mathy; Natarajan, Nitin; Cheatham, Reggie; Card, Joan; Ostrander, David; Grantham, Nancy; Smith, Paula; Jenkins, Laura Flynn

**Subject:** RE: Winter Discharge Treatment

I think it's worth including this information in the release.

**From:** McGrath, Shaun

**Sent:** Friday, September 18, 2015 10:39 AM

**To:** Purchia, Liz

**Cc:** Reynolds, Thomas; Harrison, Melissa; Fritz, Matthew; Stanislaus, Mathy; Natarajan, Nitin; Cheatham, Reggie; Card, Joan; Ostrander, David; Grantham, Nancy; Smith, Paula; Jenkins, Laura Flynn

**Subject:** Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

See answers below

Sent from my iPad

On Sep 18, 2015, at 8:26 AM, Purchia, Liz <[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Purchia.Liz@epa.gov)> wrote:

Do you anticipate us announcing this today? ASSUMING THAT WE GET A DECISION TODAY, YES, WE WOULD ANNOUNCE TODAY.

Are we announcing who we awarded the contract to? WE WILL NEED TO CONTACT THE CONTRACTOR AND SUBCONTRACTOR FIRST TO NOTIFY THEM OF THE AWARD, BUT THEN WE COULD INCLUDE THEM IN ANNOUNCEMENT.

Do we have a date for when we anticipate the temporary treatment system to be in place? Or how long the transition will take? THE SYSTEM IS TO BE IN PLACE 21 DAYS AFTER THE AWARD.

**From:** McGrath, Shaun

**Sent:** Friday, September 18, 2015 10:02 AM

**To:** Reynolds, Thomas; Purchia, Liz; Harrison, Melissa

**Cc:** Fritz, Matthew; Stanislaus, Mathy; Natarajan, Nitin; Cheatham, Reggie; Card, Joan; Ostrander, David; Grantham, Nancy; Smith, Paula; Jenkins, Laura Flynn

**Subject:** Winter Discharge Treatment

All,

We are working on announcing a decision on temporary treatment of the mine discharges through the winter. The decision hasn't been finalized, but the recommendation is for a package treatment plant. The vendor has already been selected (from among 6 bids we received) by a panel of tech experts. Given the need to move quickly to stay ahead of winter conditions in getting the treatment plant on site and operational, we hope to finalize the decision today.

Below is draft press release in anticipation of approval of this approach. Please provide comments/edits.

Shaun

DRAFT

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today announced that it will award a contract to continue treating water below the Gold King Mine during winter 2015-16. The portable, temporary treatment system will be located in Gladstone, CO (elevation 10,500ft) and will replace temporary settling ponds

constructed by the EPA in August 2015. The transition to the portable treatment system is necessary as local winter temperatures can reach -20F.

This system will provide for treatment of the approximate 550 gallons per minute (gpm) of water that continue to flow from the mine, including treating the discharges related to ongoing work in the mine to stabilize conditions. The system is designed to handle up to 1,200 gpm. The objective of the treatment system is to provide for neutralization of the mine discharge and the removal of solids and metals. Although this discharge is just one of many into Cement Creek, the treatment will remove a portion of the metal loading to Cement Creek. The EPA continues to evaluate data to determine the impact of the Gold King Mine on water quality.

Sent from my iPad